

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2380
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007
RECOMMENDATIONS OF A.V. SINGH COMMITTEE
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of recommendations made by A.V. Singh Committee on reforms in the Armed Forces;
- (b) whether the report recommended for creation of more top level positions in all the three forces;
- (c) if so, the details of increase in positions recommended by the A.V. Singh Committee in all the three forces, Force-wise;
- (d) whether the Army is demanding more positions than the committee recommended; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2380 FOR ANSWER ON 3.12.2007

Review of the creation of posts and restructuring of the cadres in forces is an ongoing and continuous process. Mechanisms exist in all the three Services to address issues of stagnation.

2. In May 2001, Army Hqrs had forwarded a paper to the Ministry of Defence drawing attention to certain shortcomings and imbalances in the organizational structure of the officers cadre with the aim of achieving optimal combat effectiveness by bringing down age profile of Battalions/Brigade Commanders and to make the organization more effective in fulfilling individual career aspirations of the officers.

3. Ministry of Defence set up a committee to examine proposals of Army Hqrs on 16th July 2001, under the Chairmanship of Shri Ajay Vikram Singh, the then Special Secretary with representatives of all the three Services. The Committee (AVSC) submitted its report in January 2003. The Raksha Mantri gave in 'principle' approval to the recommendations of the Committee in September 2003. The Committee identified two interrelated issues viz, high age profile and career stagnation.

4. AVSC had recommended for creation of more top level positions in Army as a solution to reduce the rank/age profile. A similar exercise has been done by the IAF and Navy.

5. Certain recommendations pertaining to non-select ranks have already been implemented with effect from December 2004. Restructuring of the cadre amongst all the three services is reviewed from time to time.